***Media Relations Information for 09/04/2012***

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**LPPD works with the DEA and the Bay Area Council on Drugs and Alcohol to reduce medication abuse**

La Porte Police and the Bay Area Council on Drugs and Alcohol (BACODA) evoke their former alert to area residents, reminding of the unfortunate reality that any one of us could be a drug dealer and not even know it. The truth regarding prescription medication is that most abuse occurs right in our own homes with drugs often being obtained from unused portions of medications originally prescribed to other family members or friends. Therefore, to combat this ongoing problem, the two organizations have reunited in an effort to further do away with idle medication.

To streamline the process for citizens, a drop-off point for unused and expired medication will be established at this year’s La Porte Health and Safety Fair. Medication can be turned-in at any moment during the 9 a.m. – 1 p. m. event, which is being held at La Porte Junior High School (401 South Broadway). The official turn-in date for the medication will be Saturday September 22nd, and the service will offer the convenience of both drive-up and walk-up service. The “Take-Back” booth will be located at the corner of South Broadway and C Street.

If you are considering taking advantage of this service, please be advised that it is an anonymous process, where no questions will be asked of anyone dropping off medication. The site will be staffed by members of the La Porte Police Department and Agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration, so the safe and controlled disposal of the medication is guaranteed. For additional information, please contact the coalition coordinator, Vanessa Ayala at SEHarris.CCP@bacoda.com or dial 1-800-510-3111 and ask for the Coalitions Department.